Our Toronto

VOL. 1 ISSUE 1 FALL 2008

Building a great city – together

Making Thanksgiving Day crafts at the Kinder Art class in the Matty Eckler Community Centre

WELCOME to the first edition of *Our Toronto* – a new publication for city residents published by the City of Toronto.

Our Toronto includes information on City programs and services as well as the City's position on emerging issues important to residents. Our goal is to provide residents with the information they need to fully participate in City programs, access City services and participate in local government. It is also an opportunity for you to communicate with your City government and become more involved in the life of your city as you discover (or re-discover) all that Toronto has to offer.

In addition to printing and delivering *Our Toronto* to every household, we've made this publication available on our website (toronto.ca/ourtoronto) in English and French as well as the top 10 languages spoken in Toronto. Those languages are: Chinese, Tamil, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Tagalog, Urdu, Russian, Farsi, and Korean. *Our Toronto* is also available on the website in English in HTML and audio format. Braille is available upon request.

We're proud to say that *Our Toronto* is an environmentally-friendly publication. *Our Toronto* is printed on 100% recycled paper using vegetable inks and conforms to the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council. *Our Toronto* replaces a number of existing City publications – Water Watch, Waste Watch and City Routes – and is a single source for information about your city, delivered to your door.

We hope you enjoy this first issue of *Our Toronto*.

TORONTO

The official publication of the City of Toronto

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Contact City Hall

To contact the Mayor or your City Councillor, please phone 416-338-0338. For a full list of all City Councillors, please visit the City website:

toronto.ca

Our Toronto

Building a great city – together

Our Toronto is distributed via Canada Post to every household in the city. Fully-accessible PDF and audio versions are also available on the City's website **(toronto.ca/ourtoronto)**. You can read it online in the languages listed below, or contact us to have a printed copy in your language mailed to you. Call, write or e-mail to get a Braille or large print version mailed to you.

Vous trouverez ce journal en français au site web ci-dessous. (French)

在以下所示網站上有該報紙的中文版本。 (Chinese)

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Данная газета на русском языке имеется на нижеуказанном веб-сайте. (Russian)

این نشریه به آدرس اینترنتی ذیل به زبان فارسی قابل دسترسی میباشد (Farsi)

이 신문은 아래의 웹터에서 한국어로 보실 수 있습니다. (Korean)

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FSC 100%

A message from Mayor David Miller

I'VE always been proud of our city, our City government and our public service; never more than in the past five years. During this time, City Council has worked together to build a 21st century city based on three very simple principles: creating prosperity, sharing that prosperity with all Torontonians and providing opportunity for every resident of every neighbourhood in our liveable city.

To achieve these goals, City Council has undertaken a number of strategies. For example, there's our environment plan. It sets ambitious targets to help us fight global warming and the threat of climate change, while at the same time creating jobs. Often, these jobs will be created in neighbourhoods that need them the most – through initiatives like the Mayor's Tower Renewal project.

The City is beginning the building of a 21st century infrastructure with our Transit City plan. It will bring rapid transit to all Toronto neighbourhoods by running light rail in its own right-of-way on thoroughfares like Sheppard, Finch and Eglinton Avenues.

The City is addressing community safety. Crime is down again this year as the result of putting more police officers on the street and having those officers build meaningful relationships with the communities they serve. But there's more to public safety than just law enforcement. We must also invest in people – especially in neighbourhoods where very high levels of poverty and a lack of public services can draw youth into a life of gangs and guns.

We're investing in these 13 priority neighbourhoods in partnership with business, academic institutions, community organizations, labour and other orders of government. And we're fighting for a national ban on handguns – illegal and legal – because these weapons of death and destruction have no place on the streets of our city or any other city in Canada.

City Council has strongly endorsed a variety of measures to enhance Toronto's economic competitiveness. Property taxes have been reduced for business. Water rates have been lowered for the industrial and manufacturing sectors. And financial incentives for new development have been approved to stimulate the creation of good jobs and to help growth of the city's

The story of Toronto's flag

The white stripes on a blue background represent the towers of City Hall. The red maple leaf at the base of the towers represents the Council Chamber.

At amalgamation in 1997, City Council began a search for a new flag to represent the newly-formed Toronto. The public was invited to submit designs and later City design staff were asked to submit proposals. During this review, Renato De Santis, who designed the original City of Toronto flag in 1974, submitted his design with minor modifications. City Council approved the design in October 1999.

tax base. These measures are all the more important considering the current economic challenges we are facing.

We're making real progress on so many fronts in Toronto. But this progress depends on a strong partnership between the people of Toronto and their City government. Nowhere was this partnership more in evidence than in the recent aftermath of the horrific explosion and fire at Sunrise Propane and another incident at an apartment building on Secord Avenue.

The people of Toronto – particularly those residents forced to evacuate their homes because of the resulting devastation – responded tremendously. They were co-operative, patient and helpful. City emergency staff – like police, fire and ambulance – and other public servants from the City's Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and Toronto Building services – worked in partnership with York University, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the TTC and others to ensure that residents had accommodation and could return to their homes as quickly as possible. Community safety was the top priority.

The efforts of City workers were tremendous. They showed that our foresight in emergency planning and our yearly exercises were of immense value when a true emergency occurred. But what made me most proud was the terrific response and empathy of Torontonians. This response underlined the importance of keeping in close, regular contact with the public.

This publication continues our tradition of communicating directly with Torontonians about the issues that matter to them and their communities. We can build a great city for the 21st century – a city brimming with prosperity, liveability and opportunity for all. But we can only do it in a spirit of true partnership between all residents of Toronto, businesses and the City government.

Our Toronto is an important part of our effort to strengthen that partnership. I hope the information provided here will be both interesting and valuable as we continue building a great city – together.

Handgun ban update

MAYOR David Miller's campaign to ban handguns continues to gain momentum as more than 65,000 people have signed a petition addressed to Prime Minister Stephen Harper. The petition has resonated with people across the city and has also drawn support from communities across Canada and in the United States. The City has invested in community policing, with 400 additional officers on the street, worked with other orders of government on the successful Gangs and Guns Taskforce, and advocated for tougher sentences for criminals who use guns and tighter border security.

"The time to ban handguns is long overdue and the longer we wait the more people will die or be injured," said Mayor Miller. "Handguns are intended for one purpose: to kill people. Their presence in Canada has resulted in the deaths of far too many people and they have no place in our country."

The Mayor has called for tougher crime legislation for illegal gun use, increased security at the border to stop illegal guns coming into Canada from the U.S., stronger gun controls south of the border, and the establishment of community-based prevention programs and opportunities for youth.

The *Update on Toronto Gun Violence Strategy*, presented to Executive Committee in March, stated that each time someone is murdered, injured or threatened with a gun it causes untold grief to families, creates instability in neighbourhoods, impedes the development of our business centres and diminishes trust in the institutions that govern society. The update goes on to note that the major sources of illegal firearms in Canada are smuggling from the U.S. and theft from domestic sources.

Toronto Police Services Board chair Alok Mukherjee is also calling on Prime Minister Harper to take a leadership role in banning handguns in Canada and strengthening border security to prevent guns from being smuggled into the country. "Through his leadership on the gun ban issue, Prime Minister Harper can show his firm commitment to public safety and security."

toronto.ca/handgunban

Transit City

Plan touches every corner of Toronto

IT'S a bold and ambitious expansion plan stretching the reach of public transit to every part of the city. It envisions a new light rapid transit (LRT) network estimated to cost $8 billion to build and stock with vehicles. And it will provide fast and reliable transit services for a projected 175 million riders a year.

The TTC's *Toronto Transit City – Light Rapid Transit Plan* ("Transit City") calls for the construction of a 120-km network of streetcar-only rapid transit lines. Transit City was unveiled in March 2007. The provincial government endorsed the plan the following June and included funding for it in its *Move Ontario 2020* transit plan. The plan has also been endorsed by Metrolinx and the Greater Toronto Transportation Authority.

"The Transit City plan is designed to bring high-quality light rapid transit to every corner of Toronto," says TTC Chair Adam Giambrone. "When completed in 2021, a network of seven lines covering 120 kilometres will carry 175 million customers, of which 100 million will be new riders."

Late last year, the TTC approved engineering and design work on three of the seven projects outlined in the Transit City plan – the Sheppard East, Etobicoke-Finch West and Eglinton-Crosstown LRT lines. These three lines were ranked as the projects that needed to be started first.

The TTC is deep into the environmental assessment for the Sheppard East project. It has recommended a preferred design for an LRT on Sheppard Avenue East running from the Don Mills area to Meadowvale Road in northeast Toronto.

"It will totally change the way people travel in Toronto."

Construction on one of these projects must begin in 2009 in order to build all the lines in 12 years as set out in the Province's *Move Ontario 2020* plan.

"Toronto is aiming to be a world leader in combating climate change and global warming," says Mayor David Miller. "Building a network of fast and reliable electric light rail transit lines that get people out of their cars and onto environmentally-friendly public transport is fundamental to this objective."

The new LRT network will be more than just streetcars on the road. It will be something new and completely different for Toronto – new low-floor vehicles that travel on an exclusive right-of-way.

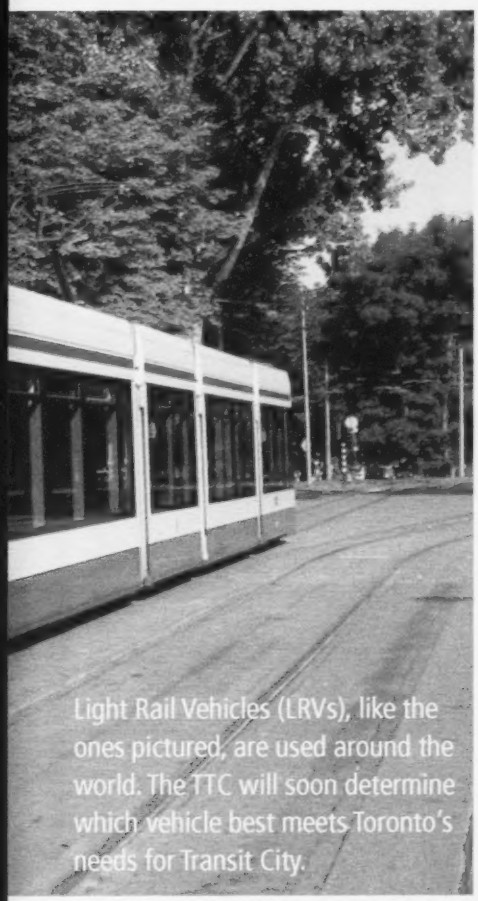
The entire network is dependent on financial support from all three levels of government. The TTC is proposing light rapid transit because, says Giambrone, "For the price of one subway you can build three light rail lines."

"I believe LRT is the correct mode of transit for the areas Transit City plans to expand into," says Matthew Blackett, publisher of *Spacing*, a local magazine focused on public space issues. "The construction of these lines will improve the urban design of some of our main streets, encourage development built on the principles of dense neighbourhoods and improve the speed and reliability of transit service."

"It will totally change the way people travel in Toronto," says TTC service planning manager Mitch Stambler. "It will be environmentally sustainable, help the city combat climate change and restore Toronto's stature as a leader in urban transit."

Based on detailed ridership projections prepared by the TTC, the network of streetcar-only routes will require more than 300 modern LRT vehicles similar to those currently proposed for the replacement of the current streetcar fleet.

transitcity.ca



Light Rail Vehicles (LRVs), like the ones pictured, are used around the world. The TTC will soon determine which vehicle best meets Toronto's needs for Transit City.

Garbage bins back on TTC platforms

WASTE and recycling containers made their return to TTC subway platforms after a five-year absence.

More than 300 containers were re-installed in 28 subway stations in June. All 69 subway and SRT stations will have garbage bins on subway platforms by the end of the year.

TTC maintenance staff report a noticeable difference in the cleanliness of the 28 stations, especially after the morning rush hour.

The metal and clear plastic containers are designed to collect both trash and recyclables such as pop cans, bottles and newspapers. Not only will the platform bins help keep TTC stations cleaner, they will also help keep trains moving faster. Paper blown down to the train tracks can cause a fire hazard which could lead to unsafe conditions and serious service delays.

More than 900 bins in TTC stations will help achieve the transit system's target of diverting 80 per cent of its waste from landfills by 2010.

The planned LRT connects the seven proposed routes to each other, with existing subway and surface routes, and with the future Spadina Subway extension into York Region.
It also provides the basis for a more seamless GTA-wide network with proposed connections to GO Transit and 905 transit systems.

The light rail corridors proposed in the plan are:

- Sheppard East: Don Mills Station to Meadowvale Road.
- Don Mills: Steeles Avenue to the Bloor-Danforth Subway.
- Eglinton Crosstown: Kennedy Station to Toronto Pearson International Airport.
- Etobicoke-Finch West: Finch Station to Hwy. 27.
- Jane: Jane Station to the future Steeles West Station.
- Scarborough Malvern: Kennedy Station to the Malvern/Morningside area.
- Waterfront West: Union Station/Exhibition to the Long Branch area.

City responds quickly to emergencies

WITHIN a three-week period the City responded to two major emergencies – an explosion and fire at a Secord Avenue apartment building on July 20, 2008 and a second explosion and fire at a propane facility on Murray Road on August 10, 2008. In both instances, the City was quick to respond and mobilize support services for affected residents in the critical hours, days and weeks following the events.

Staff from many of the City's divisions, agencies, boards and commissions worked together to provide an immediate and co-ordinated response.

The City practices and prepares for emergencies year-round and has developed an Emergency Plan for mobilizing resources during an emergency. Each emergency situation is unique, often requiring a different response and varying levels of support for different periods of time, as evidenced by the two recent emergencies that required a City response.

Immediately following both explosions, the City set up an evacuation centre where affected residents were able to get the crucial information and support they needed, including temporary shelter, meals and counselling. The evacuation centre supporting the nearly 900 displaced tenants from 2 Secord Ave. stayed open until tenants were able to move back home six weeks later, while the centre supporting the residents affected by the Murray Road explosion was only required to remain open for four days following the event.

The explosion on Murray Road required more than 10,000 residents and businesses to be evacuated within a 1.6-kilometre area of the blast site – most of whom were able to return to their homes and businesses within two days. As part of the City's response, an unprecedented neighbourhood clean up operation was also undertaken.

In both these instances, the City was able to provide a rapid emergency response and co-ordinate service delivery to the many affected residents. The City's ability to respond to two major emergencies within weeks of each other further demonstrates the City's emergency response readiness.

While the City is prepared to respond quickly and provide support to residents in the event of an emergency, assistance from the City is limited. One of the most important things any homeowner or tenant can do is ensure they have adequate insurance in case of a fire or other emergency and understand the terms of their coverage. For more information, visit the Insurance Bureau of Canada's website at www.ibc.ca.

Residents also have a role to play

Emergency preparedness check list:

- Develop an emergency plan and ensure family members know what to do before, during and after an emergency.
- Keep emergency numbers handy, including utility providers, daycare, long-term care facilities, school, work and insurance company.
- Develop a home escape plan and practise it annually with family members.
- Prepare a family emergency kit that contains first aid and other basic supplies, food and water, a change of clothing, and copies of important documents.
- Download a copy of the City's Personal Preparedness Guide from the website below.

toronto.ca/oem

Flood protection for your home

THE City of Toronto offers financial support and advice to owners of single-family, duplex and triplex homes looking to help protect their dwellings from basement flooding.

The City's Basement Flooding Protection Subsidy Program offers subsidies of up to 80 per cent of the approved maximum limits for the purchase and installation of a back-water valve, sump pump or both. It also covers pipe severance and capping of the storm sewer connection. The maximum reimbursement per property is $3,200. To be eligible for any of the subsidies, homeowners must have their property's downspouts disconnected from the sewer system where possible. Additionally, homeowners must have a Toronto-licensed plumber conduct a site assessment to determine what flood prevention work is required or possible on their property.

The City continues to work on sewer system improvements and preventive measures to help alleviate basement flooding, but there are things homeowners can do:

- Disconnect downspouts from the sewer and make sure they drain away from basement walls.
- Check for and fix leaks in walls, floors, windows, foundations and weeping tiles.
- Consider soft-surface landscaping that allows storm water to soak into the ground.
- Do not pour grease down the drain or flush objects down the toilet.

In the event of basement flooding, your first step is to call Toronto Water at 416-338-8888. City staff will inspect the problem and try to determine the source. If it is a City problem, the City will fix it. If it is the homeowner's responsibility, staff will advise on the best course of action.

toronto.ca/water
416-395-6376

Improving water service

FOR over a century, Toronto has consistently delivered water and wastewater service. However, more than 80 per cent of the pipes in the ground are over 50 years old. Some of them have been on the job for more than a century! It's time to replace them – and these improved service lines are directly funded by water rate increases. Increases to water rates are used to renew the City's aging water infrastructure. This investment will result in fewer watermain breaks and ensure that the City has a sustainable, high quality water supply for residents, now and in the future.

By the end of 2008, the City will complete the construction of new watermains along Lakeshore Boulevard West running from Lower Spadina Avenue to York Street. The $1.3 million project will improve water service to thousands of residents and businesses in the area. This is just one of many infrastructure renewal projects across the city. Other important projects include:

- The acceleration of a $25 million lead water pipe replacement program to remove all lead pipes from the City's watermain distribution system over the next nine years. This significant project will help ensure the continued high quality of Toronto's tap water.
- Environmental assessments will be completed in 14 wards across North York, Scarborough and Etobicoke at a cost of $3 million to determine the causes and effects of basement flooding and develop solutions.
- The replacement of aging equipment at the Humber Wastewater Treatment Plant in southern Etobicoke to immediately help reduce odour at the plant. The $23 million project will begin this fall and is slated for completion in 2012.
- The expansion of the Horgan Water Treatment Plant in Scarborough and construction of ozone facilities to help control taste and odour episodes associated with algae growth in Lake Ontario. The effects of these episodes, which typically occur in late summer, will be minimized through a five-year, $190 million project to be cost-shared with York Region. Project work will start in early 2009.

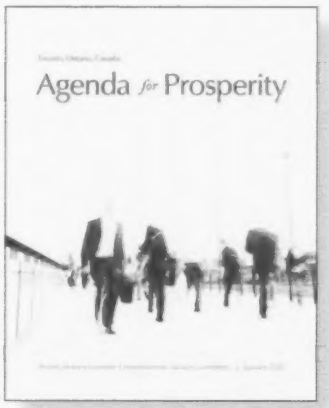
toronto.ca/water

Building a strong Toronto

Prosperity, Liveability and Opportunity for All

APPROVED unanimously by City Council in January 2008, the *Agenda for Prosperity: A Prospectus for a Great City* is a bold action plan that aims to increase prosperity, enhance liveability and create opportunity for all Toronto residents. In 2006, the Mayor's Economic Competitiveness Advisory Committee – comprising recognized leaders from the business, labour and academic communities – was set up to advise the City on ways to improve the quality of life in Toronto. The *Agenda for Prosperity* is the result of this collaboration.

The report focuses on improving the quality of life in our city. In Toronto, homelessness, poverty and the widening gap between rich and poor are issues of both economic and social concern. Keeping and attracting good jobs is central to the health of individuals, families and communities.



"The *Agenda for Prosperity* is a distillation of meaningful ideas reflecting today's global reality that you cannot dream of prosperity without economic well-being," said Hari Panday, member of the Mayor's Economic Competitiveness Advisory Committee and president and CEO of ICICI Bank Canada. "Countries and cities need to cast their net far and wide and reach outside their borders to compete in the international marketplace. The *Agenda for Prosperity* connects Torontonians to the economic, cultural and societal touch points that ensure a high quality of life for all."

Work has already begun in support of the *Agenda for Prosperity*, including the *Creative City Planning Framework* and Mayor David Miller's mission to China to build business, trade, tourism, social and cultural relationships. With the launch of BizPaL earlier this year, the City is partnering with other levels of government to make it easier for entrepreneurs to start and operate businesses in Toronto.

toronto.ca/prosperity
toronto.ca/culture/creativecity2008

Making a Safe City Safer

COMMUNITY safety is more than the absence of violence. It is about social equity – ensuring that everyone, particularly youth in vulnerable communities, are treated with dignity and respect and have opportunities to achieve their full potential. It is also about community well-being.

Toronto's Community Safety Plan, launched in 2004, continues to transform priority neighbourhoods across the city. The plan provides safety initiatives aimed at reducing violence – particularly gun-related violence – and supporting factors contributing to community well-being. In 2005, the City and the United Way identified 13 priority neighbourhoods in need of targeted social investment and support. "Our goal is a city where no one gets left behind and where everyone has the opportunity to create a better life," said United Way president Frances Lankin. "In partnership with the City of Toronto, we're working to change social conditions in our communities and build a stronger, safer city for everyone."

safecitysafer

toronto.ca/community-safety

Neighbourhood Action

Neighbourhood Action Teams and Neighbourhood Action Partnerships have been established in 13 priority neighbourhoods to co-ordinate services and leverage resources with an emphasis on supporting youth training, employment, engagement and justice, providing community and family support, and improving service delivery.

Since 2006:

- More than 30,000 youth opportunities have been provided as a result of a $15 million investment in youth employment, education and skill development.
- Close to $24 million has been invested in youth engagement, creating 247,000 youth opportunities.
- Approximately $25 million has been invested in community and family support programs providing 41,000 youth and family opportunities.
- Through the Mayor's Partnership Opportunities Legacy Fund, the City and our partners are creating new community spaces and recreation facilities in all priority neighbourhoods.

Youth Employment

- Employer Access to Support and Employment (EASE) provides resources for employers to increase youth recruitment and retention.
- Partnership to Advance Youth Employment (PAYE) assists employers in filling entry-level positions with pre-screened applicants who have the necessary training and skills.
- The ProTech Media Centre provides youth in the Jamestown-Rexdale priority neighbourhood with free access to state-of-the-art digital arts training.

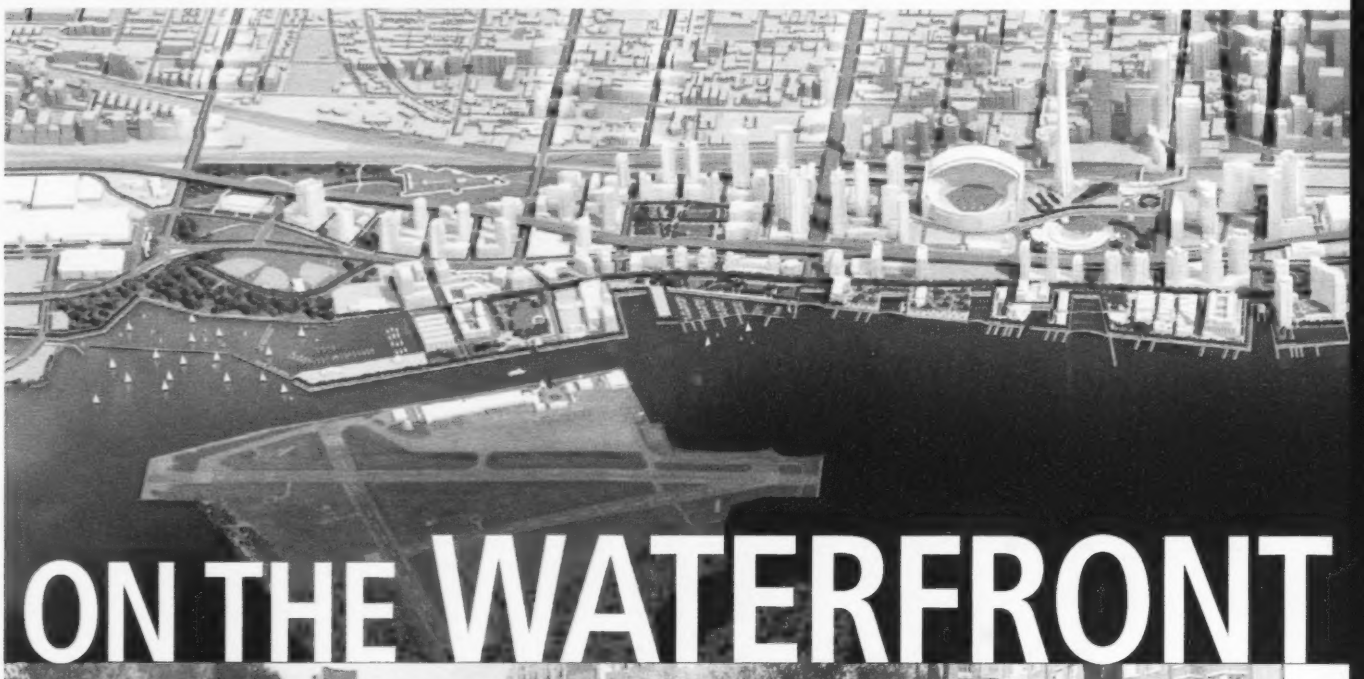
Youth Engagement

- Involve Youth is a community action and civic engagement program that helps build youth leadership in priority neighbourhoods.
- Recreation programs provide opportunities for youth leadership development, job readiness and volunteering. Program user fees were waived for 30,000 low income individuals under the Welcome Policy last year.
- The ARC (After-School Recreation Care) Program provides families with safe, quality, innovative after-school recreation programs for children between the ages of six and 12. In 2008, 11 additional ARC locations were added for a total of 30 locations across the city, serving 885 registered children and employing 90 youth.
- The Community Crisis Response Program provides co-ordinated supports and resources to communities across Toronto to respond and recover from violent and traumatic incidents.
- The Toronto Sport Leadership Program One hundred youth from the 13 priority neighbourhoods received certification in coaching and leadership through this initiative in 2007.

Community Safety Secretariat

The Community Safety Secretariat supports the work of the Mayor's Advisory Panel on Making a Safe City Safer and City Council by co-ordinating components of the overall Community Safety Plan. Initiatives include:

- The Toronto Area Interfaith Council (TAIC) was established to share best practices and develop recommendations to inform the faith sector's role in making Toronto safer, stronger and more inclusive.
- Youth Liaison Committees were established to explore the legal sector's role in improving police-youth relationships in neighbourhoods.



ON THE WATERFRONT

West Don Lands

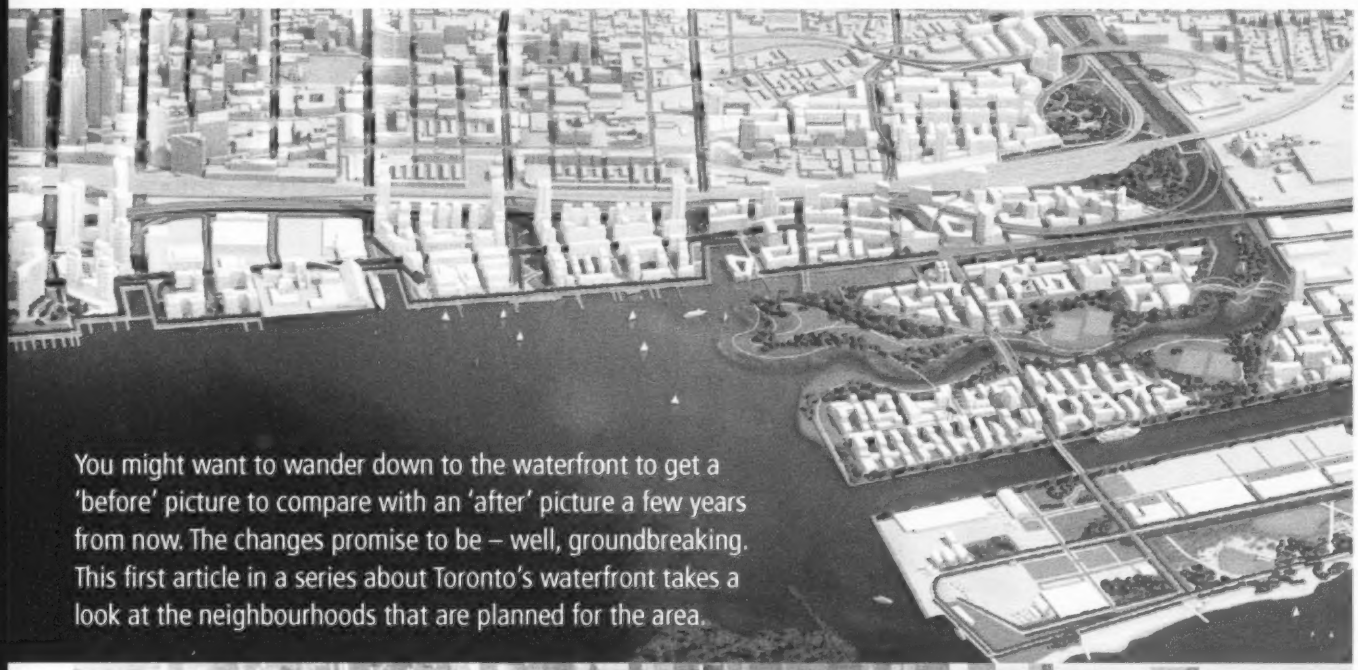
AN under-used former industrial area is in the process of becoming a new destination.

This past spring, construction began on the Flood Protection Landform, a berm that will provide flood protection for an area that extends west to York Street and includes Toronto's financial district. The landform, being constructed by Waterfront Toronto in partnership with the Ontario Realty Corporation, will be the future home of the Don River Park, an 18-acre park (roughly 20 times the size of Dundas Square) and a signature piece of the West Don Lands Community. Plans call for four different neighbourhoods to be built in the area – all anchored by the Don River Park.

Construction is expected to begin in early 2009 on the District Energy Centre in the West Don Lands, which will begin delivering heating and cooling to the first buildings by 2010. While district energy plants are common in Scandinavia and other parts of Europe, they have yet to be introduced on a large urban scale in North America.

In addition, Waterfront Toronto has chosen the first private developer for residential construction, which will begin in 2009.

waterfrontoronto.ca
toronto.ca/waterfront



You might want to wander down to the waterfront to get a 'before' picture to compare with an 'after' picture a few years from now. The changes promise to be – well, groundbreaking. This first article in a series about Toronto's waterfront takes a look at the neighbourhoods that are planned for the area.

East Bayfront

THE East Bayfront area of Toronto's waterfront begins at Jarvis Street and extends east to Parliament Street. Waterfront Toronto has divided the public lands in East Bayfront into three neighbourhoods – Bayside, Dockside and Parkside.

Bayside is located on 13 acres of waterfront property between Sherbourne and Parliament Streets. Dockside, a similar 11-acre site between Jarvis and Sherbourne, will be a mixed use community. The smaller Parkside area is slated for primarily residential development.

"After four years of planning, we have moved into the implementation phase of East Bayfront," said Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Waterfront project director with the City's Waterfront Secretariat. "There are a number of exciting projects now underway. Waterfront Toronto has begun construction of the infrastructure needed to support new development."

The Toronto Economic Development Corporation has begun construction on First Waterfront Place, which will be the home of Corus Entertainment Inc. Additionally, Waterfront Toronto recently announced plans to build George Brown College's new health sciences campus and student residence in Bayside. City staff will report on this development to City Council this fall.

Two new parks will anchor the area – Jarvis Park and Sherbourne Park. Both will be completed in 2010.

Andrew Gray, vice president of East Bayfront for Waterfront Toronto, said, "The waterfront will be under construction for a long period of time but Torontonians can now see incremental change to the area. At the end of day, we are building a neighbourhood that will be a tremendous asset to the city."

City relies on input of all residents

THE City is often described as the government closest to the people. From the water you use to make your morning coffee, to the streetlights you rely on when coming home at night, to the recreation programs, parks, childcare, libraries, emergency services, sidewalks and roads Torontonians count on - the City is part of your life.

> When you vote, consult, comment, debate – or talk to the Mayor or your Councillor – you are keeping local government relevant.

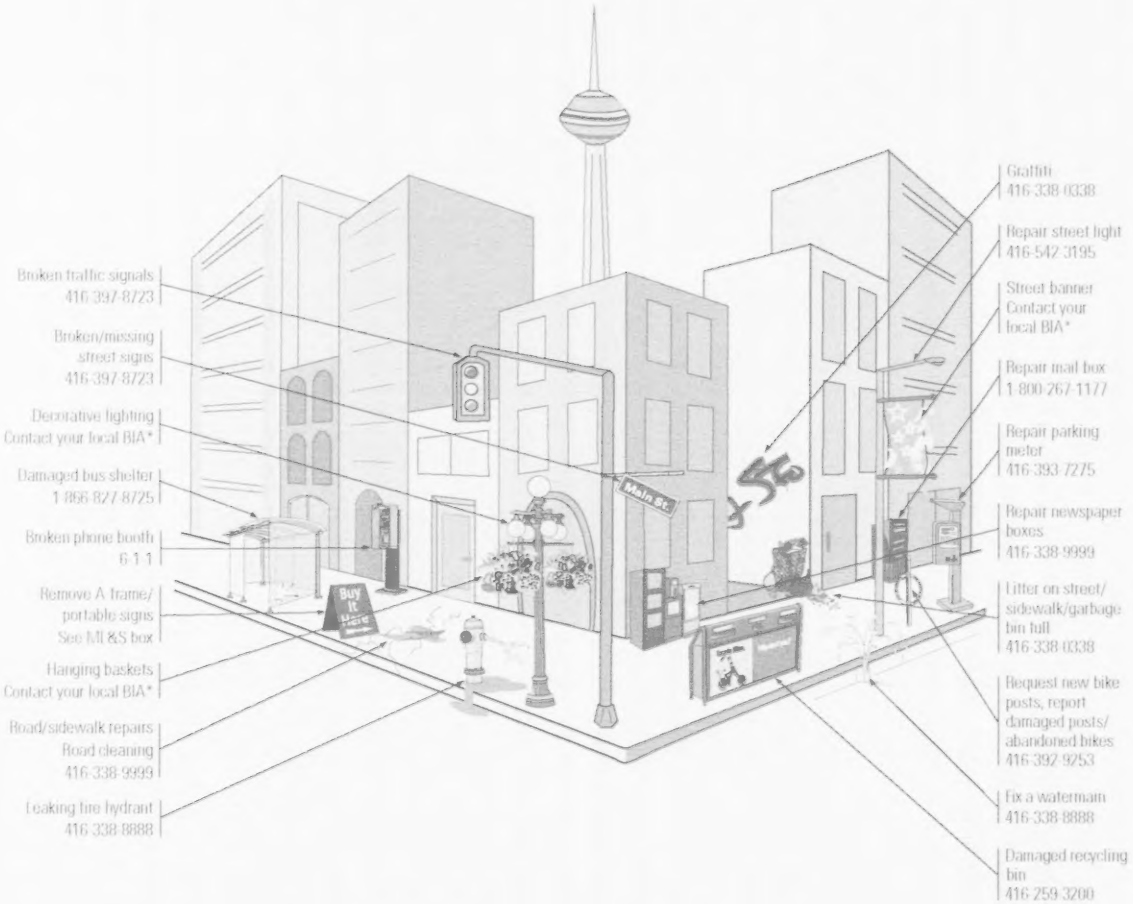
You play a vital role in City government. Your ideas and concerns help set directions, create programs and services, and push for innovations that will keep Toronto economically, socially and environmentally healthy. When you vote, participate in consultations, sit on a City taskforce, comment on development applications, talk with the Mayor or your City Councillor, or debate city issues with your friends, neighbours and family, you are participating in processes that keeps your local government relevant.

Civic engagement = information+dialogue+decisions+action

The City is making it easier for residents to learn about the issues and decisions City Council is making, and helping residents get involved. The City's new web-based Meeting Monitor (http://app.toronto.ca/tmmismonitor/index.do) provides real time updates about the issues being discussed at City Council and Committees. The City's new Live Green Toronto program and ZeroFootprint Toronto can connect you with practical environmental and climate change information.

Access Toronto (416-338-0338) can answer your questions about City services and programs, including contact information for the Mayor and your local Councillor. The City's 'Get Involved' web page (www.toronto.ca/involved) has details on consultations, public appointments and special events. Torontonians are also encouraged to participate in the next municipal election on November 8, 2010. Information on the election will be available on the City's website starting in January 2010.

How can we help?



Call the local Municipal Licensing and Standards Office (ML&S):

- North York District: 416-395-7011
- Toronto and East York District: 416-397-9200
- Scarborough District: 416-396-7071
- Etobicoke York District: 416-394-2535

To report:

- A-frame/portable signs
- Abandoned appliances
- Property in general disrepair or hazardous condition

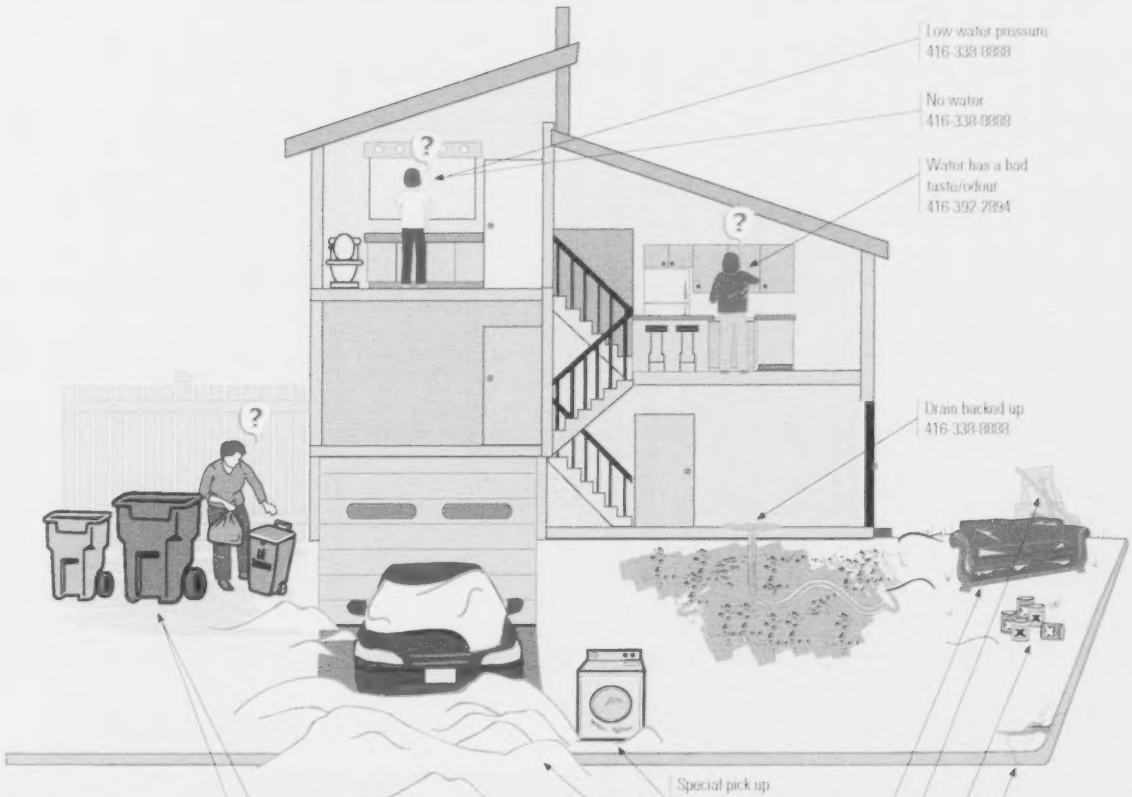
TORONTO

www.toronto.ca
accesstoronto@toronto.ca
416-338-0338

tabia
Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas

* Business Improvement Areas (BIA)
www.toronto-bia.com
416-889-4111

How can we help?



Call the local Municipal Licensing and Standards Office (ML&S):

- North York District: 416-395-7011
- Toronto and East York District: 416-397-9200
- Scarborough District: 416-396-7071
- Etobicoke York District: 416-394-2535

To report:

- Litter and debris
- Abandoned appliances
- Property in general disrepair or hazardous condition

TORONTO

www.toronto.ca
accesstoronto@toronto.ca
416-338-0338

Watching our waste line

THE City is serious about its commitment to divert 70 per cent of waste from landfill by 2010 and has a plan to get us there – Target70. The plan includes replacing blue and grey boxes with new, larger Blue Bins to encourage more recycling, providing residents with new Garbage Bins and implementing a Solid Waste Management Fee based on the volume of garbage each household produces. This fee will pay for existing and new diversion programs that provide residents with the tools to reduce, reuse and recycle more waste.

So far, the results are encouraging. Residents using the new Blue Bins for just a few months have already improved their recycling rate by 10 to 15 per cent. Garbage Bins are rolling out across the city from east to west.

In the past, the average fee of $209 for managing garbage was included in property taxes. This changes as of November 1, 2008, when the City starts charging your Solid Waste Management Fee through a new utility bill. This average garbage fee of $209, that was part of your property taxes, will be given back to you as a rebate on your new bill and used towards paying your fee. Your water charge will also appear as a separate item on the new utility bill.

The $209 rebate provided to each household has been subtracted from the fees (see illustration at right). This year, the City will begin phasing in several new diversion programs. These include adding new materials for recycling, providing organics collection to multi-unit buildings, establishing a series of reuse centres, and beginning curbside collection of durable goods (e.g. furniture and mattresses).

Remember, the more you reduce, reuse and recycle, the less garbage you produce, the less you pay.

toronto.ca/target70

TARGET 70

No new Garbage Bin yet? Use a pink bag tag for now

The delivery of new Garbage Bins has been delayed for some households across the city due to manufacturing constraints. These homes will not receive their choice of Garbage Bin before November 1, 2008 when the Solid Waste Management Fee begins. The bins will be delivered by January 31, 2009. Until then, affected residents will use City-issued pink-coloured garbage tags to receive collection service. Please note, homes receiving pink tags will still be billed the fee on the new utility bill.

The temporary pink bag tags, delivered by Canada Post as personally addressed mail, are valid from November 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009. You will receive the appropriate number of pink tags according to the size bin you selected along with instructions for their use. For more information, visit Toronto.ca/target70 or call 416-392-BINS (2467).

Apartments, condominiums and some townhouses

As of July 1, 2008, building owners are required to pay a Solid Waste Management Fee for garbage collection based on the amount of garbage produced by building residents. If residents recycle less, more garbage is produced. The more garbage that's produced, the greater the fee.

The City is offering property owners assistance to make recycling more convenient in multi-unit buildings to encourage residents to recycle more. We should see the multi-unit recycling rate of just 13 per cent improve dramatically.

Currently, as is the case for single-family homes, there is no charge to multi-unit buildings for recycling, organics and bulky item collection.

Supporting children and families – ensuring a healthy start

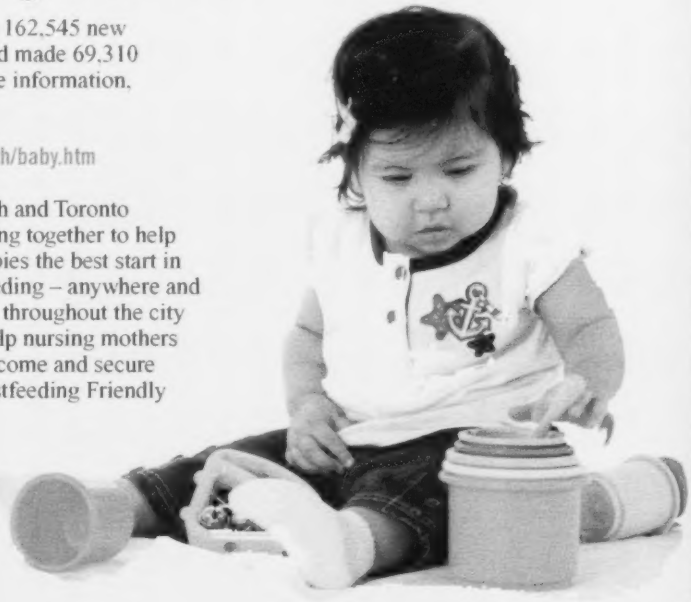
ALL families bringing home a new baby need support. Toronto Public Health helps families through the *Healthy Babies, Healthy Children* (HBHC) program.

HBHC support includes a telephone call from a public health nurse and an offer of a free home visit if needed. "The program ensures that all children in Toronto get the best start in life," said Donalda McCabe, Director, Healthy Families. "The HBHC program is a prevention and early intervention initiative to provide support and services to families with children from before birth up to six years of age."

Public health nurses and family home visitors work together to provide support, teaching and links to community services. Family home visitors are able to work with new moms in their own languages. One of the challenges of the HBHC program has been the incredible number of births in Toronto – approximately 24 per cent of Ontario births occur here. Over the past eight years, Toronto Public Health has contacted 162,545 new mothers by phone and made 69,310 home visits. For more information, call 416-338-7600.

toronto.ca/health/baby.htm

Toronto Public Health and Toronto restaurants are working together to help women give their babies the best start in life through breastfeeding – anywhere and anytime. Restaurants throughout the city are taking steps to help nursing mothers and families feel welcome and secure by displaying a Breastfeeding Friendly window sticker.



toronto.ca/health/breastfeeding/friendlyrestaurants.htm

Protect your health – get vaccinated

No tissue?
ACHOO!
Do the Sleeve Sneeze.
• Cough or sneeze into your sleeve
• Keep your hands clean
• Stop the spread of GERMS
416.338.7600 toronto.ca/health | Toronto Public Health

IMMUNIZATION is the best way to protect yourself and your family against many serious diseases such as tetanus, polio, meningitis and whooping cough.

The bacteria and viruses that cause diseases are still with us, as shown by the recent measles outbreak in Toronto and the 2007 mumps outbreak across North America. If you have not been vaccinated, you have a much higher risk of illness than those who have been vaccinated.

"It is important to keep your immunizations up-to-date no matter what age you are," said Toronto Public Health Associate Medical Officer of Health Dr. Barbara Yaffe. "We all know it is recommended that young children get a series of vaccines, but did you know adults need a tetanus and diphtheria shot every ten years? In addition, specific vaccines may be recommended if you are travelling to certain areas of the world."

The vaccines used in Canada are among the safest tools of modern medicine and serious side effects are rare. Toronto Public Health offers a variety of free vaccinations, specifically Hepatitis B and Meningitis C vaccines for all Grade 7 students, Human Papiloma Virus (HPV) vaccine for all Grade 8 females, and flu vaccines each fall to everyone over the age of six months.

For more information, consult your physician or call the Toronto Public Health Immunization Information Line at 416-392-1250.

toronto.ca/health
416-392-1250

Toronto ranks high, wins big

THE City of Toronto continues to rack up prestigious awards and international recognition for its programs and services. Whether measuring economic competitiveness, safety and security, quality of life or quality of services, Toronto consistently ranks high among other major global cities.

Since 2005, Toronto has been a top ranking city in more than ten international, national and provincial studies, indices and reports. Most recently, Forbes ranked Toronto as the tenth most economically powerful city in the world alongside other major economic centres such as New York, Paris, Hong Kong, Tokyo and London. Forbes also recognized Toronto as one of the fastest growing financial centres in the G7 group of industrialized countries. Standard & Poor's 2007 Industry Report Card ranked Toronto as one of the top ten economic centres in the world. The S&P report examined more than 15,000 local, state and regional governments around the world and placed Toronto with other such world-class cities as London, Los Angeles, Milan, Moscow, New York, Paris and Yokohama for its depth of services and deep, diversified economy.

"Toronto's continued placement alongside the world's greatest cities confirms that the quality of life for city residents is highly sought after and serves as a model for other urban centres," said Mayor David Miller.

- KPMG's 2006 Competitive Alternatives study found that Toronto offers one of the most cost-effective business and investment climates in the world.
- A March 2007 study titled Cities of Opportunity: Business-Readiness Indicators for the 21st Century compared Toronto with 11 other international cities and ranked the city amongst the best in the areas of cost, ease of doing business, demographic advantages, innovation, safety and security and lifestyle benefits.
- The Economist Intelligence Unit (the Economist Magazine) ranked Toronto fifth in the world for liveability, citing the city's low crime rates, low threat from instability or terrorism, and highly developed transport and communications infrastructure.
- For the second year in a row, Toronto's quality of living was ranked fifteenth in the world and second in North America by Mercer Human Resource Consulting.
- In October 2005, Toronto was declared North America's top-rated economy according to LaSalle Investment Management's 2005 North American Regional Economic Growth Index.
- In 2006, Toronto's Long-Term Fiscal Plan was the recipient of the prestigious Award for Excellence in Government Finance (in the Budgeting and Financial Reporting category) from the Government Finance Officers of the United States and Canada (GFOA).
- Since 2004, the City has won 119 awards for achievement at the Public Sector Quality Fair (PSQF). The PSQF is an annual showcase of service excellence in government, health care and education sectors across Ontario. This year, a record 45 City programs were recognized for creativity and quality.

Change is in the air

Toronto's work on climate change recognized internationally

TORONTO is known throughout the world as a leader on climate change and environmental issues. The City has been working closely with residents and businesses for years to make Toronto a greener, healthier city. The City's long-term approach to dealing with climate change is laid out in its *Change is in the Air* action plan.

The *Change is in the Air* plan sets a target of a six per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2012 and an 80 per cent reduction by 2050 (based on 1990 levels). That commitment is backed up by a wide range of City-sponsored environmental initiatives and programs.

Environmental groups and Toronto's green-conscious residents have applauded the City's efforts. Asked to comment, local resident Janet McCausland said, "There's no doubt the City has ambitious plans for greening Toronto and dealing with climate change. I'm hopeful the City will deliver on its vision."

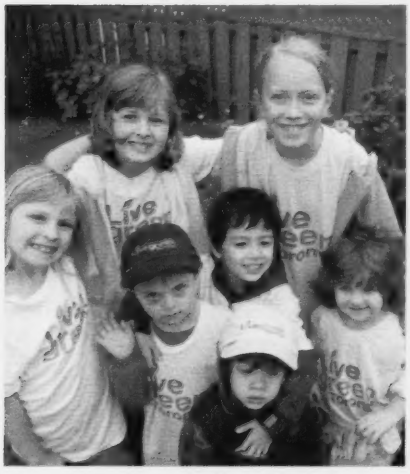
McCausland, an environmental consultant with the company Green Living Enterprises, added, "It will take stubborn, unwavering decision makers at City Hall to pull it off. As clichéd as it sounds, we need to think globally and act locally."

Toronto's green reputation got a boost this year when Mayor David Miller was appointed chair of the C40 Group, a network of major world cities committed to tackling climate change.

The City has been greening its own operations for years with programs such as the greening of the City's vehicle fleet, making City facilities more energy efficient and capturing combustible methane gas from landfills for use as fuel. In the broader community, the City is a partner in an initiative to improve the energy efficiency and quality of older high-rise buildings as part of efforts to renew neighbourhoods. And the City's new *Live Green Toronto* initiative is earning applause from community groups eager to participate in the program.

toronto.ca/environment

Play your part with *Live Green Toronto*



Livegreen Toronto

TORONTO is taking action on climate change to a whole new level with *Live Green Toronto*. The City launched *Live Green Toronto* this year to encourage residents to reduce their energy use, help clean our air and protect the climate. *Live Green Toronto* includes hands-on help, supportive grants and a user-friendly website.

According to Lawson Oates, who leads the Toronto Environment Office at City Hall, "We're providing *Live Green Toronto* grants to help community groups working locally to increase energy efficiency, produce renewable energy, grow food locally, build green roofs, plant trees or conserve water."

Hands-on help is available courtesy of "community activators" hired by the City to help neighbourhoods and community groups turn their green ideas into action.

Last year the City carried out "green face-lifts" at 42 arenas, three curling rinks, seven outdoor pools, 27 community centres and 45 outdoor rinks. CO^2 emissions in arenas have been reduced by 4,300 tonnes, saving $1.2 million every year.

The *Live Green Toronto* website is a good source of information about rebates, tips and links to green resources, including municipal, provincial and federal environmental programs. Check it out and please keep doing your part to help make Toronto a green city!

toronto.ca/livegreen

Mayor's Tower Renewal

Mayor's Tower Renewal

TORONTO is a city of towers. They are found across the city and are a prominent feature of most neighbourhoods. They account for nearly a third of the City's housing stock and are home to hundreds of thousands residents. However, many of these structures and their communities are in need of thoughtful revitalization.

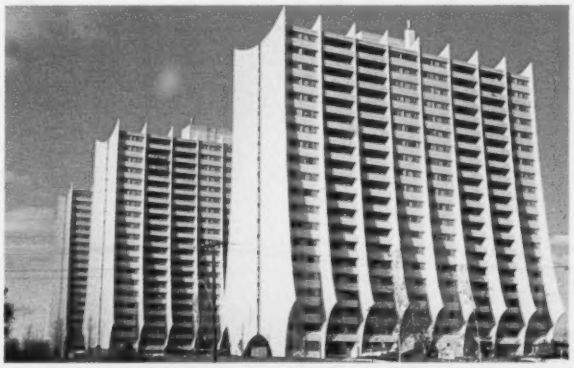


Image courtesy of ERA Architects

In response, the City of Toronto is implementing Mayor's Tower Renewal – a multi-faceted building upgrade, community revitalization and greening program of unprecedented scale. By dramatically improving the energy efficiency of the more than 1,000 high-rise concrete residential buildings located throughout Toronto, Mayor's Tower Renewal will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the entire urban area. By working with the Clinton Climate Initiative, and through the Mayor's role as chair of the C40 group of cities, Mayor's Tower Renewal will provide international leadership.

But Mayor's Tower Renewal is about more than energy consumption. There are a broad range of benefits associated with this program, including:

- A cleaner, greener city through the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, zero-carbon goals for new developments, improved public transportation, cycling and pedestrian options, and other green activities.
- Stronger communities through local job creation, enhanced availability of local food and services, improved open space and outdoor recreational space, and the inclusion of tenants in the planning and implementation of projects.
- Increased social and cultural benefits through a focus on site and community heritage and improvements to the built and natural environments in neighbourhoods.
- Enhanced local economic activity through on-site retail and services, commercialization of green technology, and new employment and business opportunities.

Mayor's Tower Renewal is a vision for a greener, more liveable and prosperous city. It is a building upgrade, community reinvestment and greening initiative that is poised to transform the city.

towerrenewal.ca

Power, money, and respect

THOSE three words sum up the challenge of the City's inter-governmental relations work. Mayor David Miller promised to make our strong city and economy even stronger by working to develop new relationships with the federal and provincial governments.

For the City to pursue its own goals and set its own priorities, new legislation was needed recognizing Toronto's status as the sixth largest government in Canada. The City of Toronto Act gave the City broad powers to ensure that Toronto had the flexibility to provide services, be accountable to residents and manage growth.

With the power to set its priorities, the City now needs the money to act on them. The City of Toronto Act gave the City the ability to raise revenues through limited new sources of taxation, but that is only one part of the solution. The City continues to work with the Province to find ways to alleviate fiscal issues relating to the downloading of social services costs. At the federal level, the City has advocated for a National Transit Strategy and a share of revenues that grow with the economy. Both efforts are supported by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Big City Mayor's Caucus.

With regard to respect, the City has asked for a seat at the table with other levels of government when decisions affecting Toronto are being made. Success on that front was achieved with signing of the Toronto-Ontario Co-operation and Consultation Agreement on January 15, 2008. The pact provides guidance for the early and consistent exchange of information between the two governments, ensuring two-way communications and ongoing consultation. Other Memoranda of Understanding have also been signed that involve all three levels of government.

The City's goal is to continue to work co-operatively with Queen's Park and Ottawa to better serve the interests of Torontonians.

Property tax reductions for Toronto's businesses

CITY Council has approved a long-term plan to spur business competitiveness by reducing property tax rates within the business tax classes.

In 2008, Toronto began providing accelerated tax relief for smaller businesses by introducing graduated tax rates within the commercial classes. Graduated tax rates will see smaller business properties move to the City's target rate by 2015, with all commercial properties expected to reach the target rate by 2020.

Also in 2008, City Council adopted the "Residual Commercial" property tax class, which includes smaller businesses and all other commercial property types that are not specifically included in the "Commercial" property tax class (shopping centres, large office buildings, parking lots, vacant land and large sports facilities). Properties in the "Residual Commercial" property class will see a lower tax rate applied to the first million dollars of assessed value. The balance of the assessed value will be taxed at the "Commercial" property tax rate. Properties in the "Residual Commercial" tax class saw a 1.29 per cent tax rate decrease for 2008. Properties in the "Industrial" tax class saw a 1.01 per cent tax rate decrease for 2008.

These measures have contributed to a boom in commercial development in Toronto, which saw a total of $3.1 billion in building permits issued in the first seven months of 2008. Planned developments include

- 3.6 million square feet of Class A office space in four major new office buildings in the downtown area in 2009 and 2010
- $2.4 billion in investment in large scale hotel developments
- $1.4 billion in entertainment/cultural projects, and
- over $1 billion in major medical and industrial complexes.

Toronto businesses have also seen steady increases in commercial rents in 2007 and 2008, combined with a decrease in office and industrial vacancy rates.

Toronto's final 2008 tax bills were mailed to all property owners in May.

toronto.ca/taxes/property_tax/rate_reduction

Personal Vehicle Tax in effect September 1

ON September 1, the City's new Personal Vehicle Tax (PVT) came into effect. The tax is $60 for a passenger vehicle or light commercial vehicle registered for personal use and $30 for a motorcycle or moped. These amounts are doubled when residents purchase two-year validation renewals.

People with a Toronto address will pay the PVT at the time of licence plate validation renewal. The PVT must be paid in order to renew your licence. The PVT is collected through ServiceOntario by using the Internet, kiosks, by mail, or at any Driver and Vehicle Licence Issuing Office.

toronto.ca/taxes
416-338-4829

Favourite City Feature, Favourite City Service

Do you have a favourite spot in Toronto? What's special about it?

Toronto Islands are great for biking. I can hop on the ferry with my picnic lunch and spend the day. It's a great, inexpensive view of the downtown skyline.

Is there a City service that is special to you?

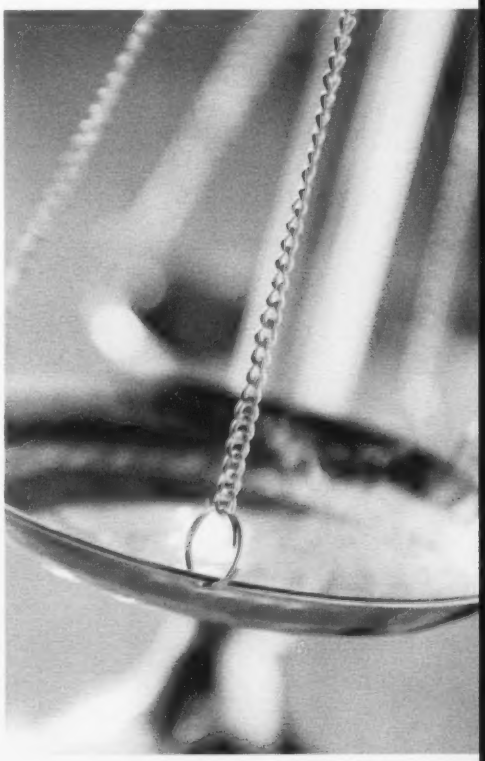
The Green Bins are great. My complex is part of the pilot project for apartments and it really works. My roommates and I used to take garbage out at least once a day; now we're down to once a week.

Jackie Maclennan, Church Street Village

Do you have a favourite place in the city? Is there one service that you really like? Write us at ourtoronto@toronto.ca

Access and privacy

Two complementary rights



THE City operates a wide range of services and holds a large variety of information related to these services.

Integral to our commitment to openness and transparency, we believe that the public should be able to access the City's information as much as possible. Much of the information the City holds is a matter of public record and is routinely available on the City's website or upon request by contacting the appropriate City division. The Directory of Records on the City's website provides an overview of what information the City holds and the routine disclosure plans are in place to enable the public to easily and conveniently access the information that they require.

However, not all information is readily available and accessible to the public because the City is required to protect confidential or personal information held in City records. A Freedom of Information (FOI) request is necessary when the information requested contains personal or confidential information.

The City has conducted extensive staff training programs and detailed reviews of practices in each City division to ensure the City's compliance with privacy protection.

The City balances the public's rights to access and privacy. Providing access to information ensures individuals can participate in the democratic process and that politicians and City staff remain accountable to the public they serve. Privacy ensures that the personal information held in City records is safe, secure and protected.

The Corporate Access and Privacy Office (CAP) wants to hear from you about what kinds of information you need access to in order to go about your everyday lives.

toronto.ca/cap 416-392-9684

Toronto: then and now

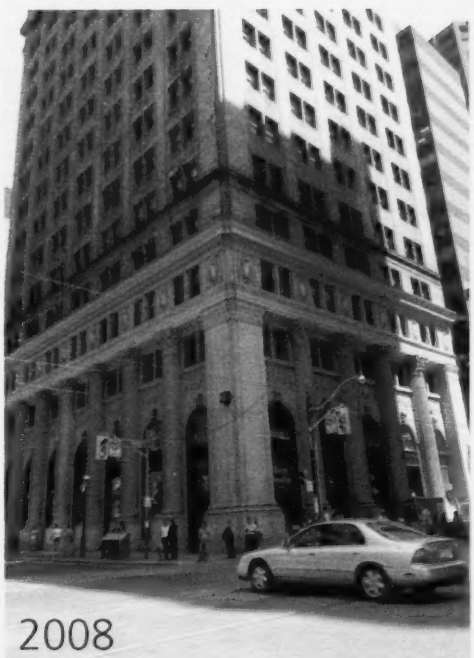
Northeast corner of King Street and Yonge Street, looking north

THE intersection of King and Yonge has always been busy, as shown in these photos from around 1912 and 2008.

Both photos show streetcar lines running across King Street, but in 1912 there was still a streetcar route up Yonge Street. The Yonge subway line replaced that in 1954.

toronto.ca/archives

CTA Fonds 1244, Item 491



Making seniors heard at City Hall

Actors Betty Cherer and Gene Vayda entertain the audience at the Seniors' Forum-sponsored Seniors Living in Diversity event earlier this summer.

SENIORS helping seniors – that's what motivates a diverse group of people, all of them over 60 years of age, who make up the Toronto Seniors' Forum. The forum was created in 2004 and serves as a positive voice for seniors in the city.

"We want to help seniors help themselves," says Mildred Margulies, co-chair of the forum and a resident of Toronto for 53 years. "Ours was a generation that didn't make a fuss when we were young, but now as seniors we have to speak up and be heard."

The Seniors' Forum provides a strong voice for the increasing number of seniors in Toronto.

Neville Gordon, the forum's other co-chair, has lived in the Scarborough/east Toronto area since 1965. Since retiring as a chartered accountant in 1994, Neville has advocated for Toronto seniors and spoken up about issues such as keeping public transit affordable for seniors.

He says, "For all of us who are part of the Seniors' Forum, our involvement has given us an opportunity to learn more about the municipal political process as we help to provide a unified voice for older Torontonians."

It's not all serious business. In June 2008, the forum organized an event to celebrate the official declaration of Seniors Month on behalf of the Mayor, featuring music, dance and drama all by seniors and was attended by over 250 diverse seniors from across Toronto.

The Seniors' Forum was created to help connect all Toronto seniors, especially newcomers and those living with disabilities and economic challenges, to the more than 40 programs and services that the City delivers to directly benefit local seniors. For more information, contact the Toronto Seniors' Forum at 416-392-8630.

toronto.ca/seniors

Green tips: putting your garden to bed

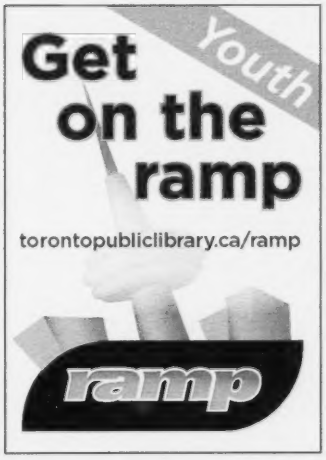
1. Hill your roses by putting a cone of soil around the base of each rose bush about eight to ten inches up the stem structure.
2. Burlap rhododendrons and azaleas by making a frame out of stakes and weaving burlap around the stakes. Then loosely fill in the space with leaves. The leaves will act as insulation for the shrub.
3. Burlap new evergreen plantings. This will insulate the evergreens and help prevent salt damage from traffic spray.
4. Plant bulbs with the pointy end up!
5. Plant daffodils and smaller bulbs in September so the root systems have a chance to start growing. Daffodils should be planted eight to ten inches below the soil level and small bulbs should be planted up to four inches below the soil level. Be sure to firmly press the soil on top of the bulbs to make soil contact.
6. Tulips can be planted any time before the ground freezes. Tulips should be planted eight to ten inches below soil level. Note: Squirrels only dig down about six inches, so planting deeper than that is good protection against squirrels digging them up for food. Planting them too deep, however, may prevent the bulbs from growing as expected. If squirrels are persistent, use chicken wire over the bulbs before covering with soil.
7. Don't leave clay pots sitting outside in the winter as freezing temperatures could cause them to chip and crack. Instead, clean them with a stiff brush to get rid of any clinging soil and store them in the garage, garden shed or some other spot out of the elements.
8. Make sure you weed your garden one last time in late October so they have a lesser chance of coming back in the spring.
9. Cut the lawn for the last time in the third or fourth week of October. If the grass has a chance to grow a bit longer before the winter, it will be more winter resistant.
10. You don't have to completely cut all your perennials back to the ground.

YouthEdge

THE City of Toronto offers youth between the ages of 13 and 24 a wide range of recreation programs, drop-in sports and employment opportunities. Meet new people, hang out with friends and learn vital life skills that will give you an edge in the job market.

"We want to help the leaders of tomorrow develop valuable, employable skills, and the confidence to go out and secure meaningful work," said Maxwayne Christy, City-Wide Recreationist, Youth Portfolio. "The City is not only the largest employer of youth in Toronto, but it also partners with a number of community organizations providing services and training for youth in areas of interest to them."

Youth outreach workers are available to provide information and access to City programs and services, including employment opportunities with Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation and other organizations in their communities.



Get involved in youth programs across Toronto

- Adapted Programs/Integrated Services' diverse recreational opportunities provide programs that promote both social and skill development for youth between the ages of 13 and 29 with disabilities and special needs.
- Explore and discover expression through Art! Programs in the visual arts, music, dance, drama, crafts and special interest workshops. Programs are offered across the city year round to help young people develop and hone new and existing skills.
- Babysitting Training is a certificate program that educates youth on infant care, nutrition, child development, child safety, first aid and emergency procedures.
- Experience the power of movement. In a quest for health and wellness, get active through extensive fitness and wellness programs suitable for all age groups, experience and goals.
- Girls Unlimited (GU) is a partnership in Toronto promoting and supporting physical activity, leadership and life skills among female youth aged 13 to 17.
- Hearing Every Youth through Youth (HEYY) is a volunteer training program for youth interested in becoming phone line counsellors.
- The Inner City Outtripping Centre (ICOC) has developed canoeing and outtripping programs for children and youth throughout Toronto.
- Leader in Training (L.I.T) programs allow youth to explore various leadership styles through in-class practical experiences and volunteerism.
- Queerwest is a Tuesday evening drop-in program for gay and lesbian youth and allies aged 15 to 24.
- The Remix Project teaches skills in media, business and creative arts to youth aspiring for careers in the urban arts.
- Play in Ontario's biggest sports league! City-wide sports programs ranging from soccer to hockey provide an opportunity to meet new people, develop new skills and build a healthy and balanced lifestyle.
- Stomp Urban Dance Competition/Showcase is an event that allows young people of different cultural backgrounds, ages and genders to collaborate and produce high calibre performances.
- Tobacco Don't Own Toronto (T-DOT) project is a youth-driven leadership program with a multi-media focus on tobacco issues in Toronto.
- The Toronto Youth Cabinet (TYC) provides a critical gathering place for all young people interested in making Toronto an even better place. It was created in 1998 to bring youth ideas and energy to City Hall. TYC members build dynamic relationships with City Council and the youth community.
- Youth Co-operative Leadership Program focuses on leadership development, critical thinking skills and job-readiness training.
- Youth Employment Toronto (YET) provides an outreach service to young people aged 16 to 29 in Toronto who are currently out of school, unemployed and require support to reach their goals.

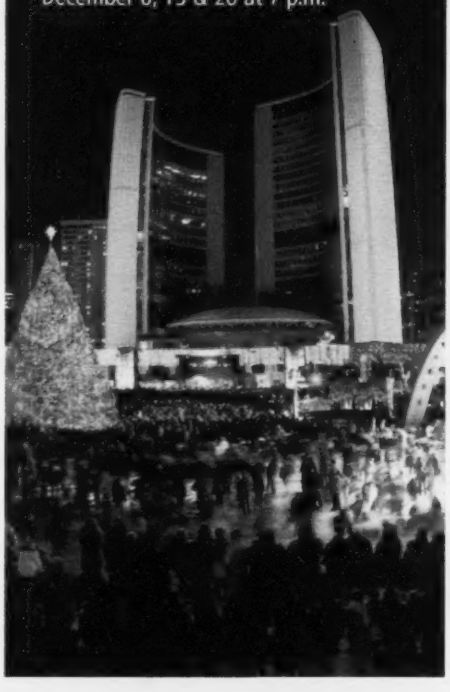
toronto.ca/parks

events

There are dozens of events taking place across Toronto every week. A more detailed listing is on our website. You can also add your event - big or small - to this web page at the same link.

http://wx.toronto.ca/festevents.nsf/

CAVALCADE OF LIGHTS presented by Scotiabank at City Hall's Nathan Phillips Square features 300,000 sparkling lights, a spectacular 50-foot Christmas tree, plus free Saturday night concerts and fireworks. Join the Opening Celebration on November 29 at 7 p.m. Concerts and fireworks continue December 6, 13 & 20 at 7 p.m.



TORONTO'S WINTERCITY FESTIVAL presented by RBC features two weekends of free outdoor entertainment at City Hall's Nathan Phillips Square with live concerts, international spectacle shows, skating parties and more!

From January 30 - February 12, 2009

For complete Cavalcade of Lights and WinterCity Festival details, visit toronto.ca/special_events **or call Access Toronto at 416-338-0338.**

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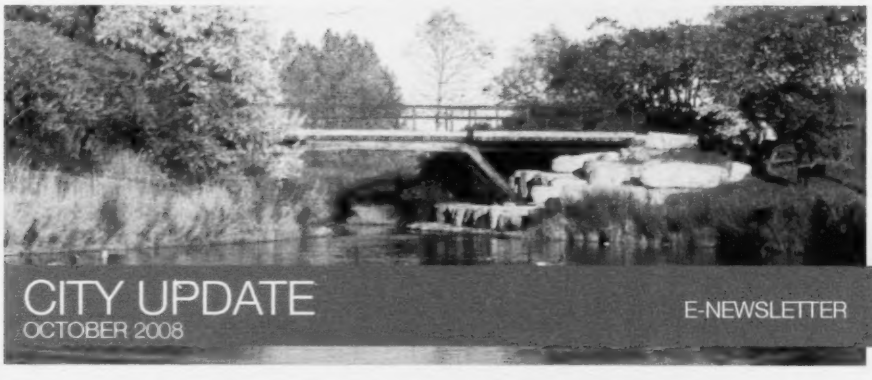

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